

REMARKS

This Amendment is being filed in response to the Office Action mailed March 6, 2008, which has been reviewed and carefully considered. Reconsideration and allowance of the present application in view of the amendments made above and the remarks to follow are respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, the Examiner indicated that claims 2 and 4-10 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Applicants gratefully acknowledge the indication that claims 2 and 4-10 contain patentable subject matter. By means of the present amendment, independent claim 1 has been amended to include the features of allowable claim 2 which has been canceled without prejudice. In addition, claims 4, 7 and 10 have been rewritten in independent. Further, claim 3 has been canceled without prejudice. Applicants reserve the right to reintroduce subject matter deleted herein at a later time during the prosecution of this application or continuing applications.


Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that independent claims 1, 4, 7 and 10 be allowed. In addition, it is respectfully

submitted that claims 5-6 and 8-9 should also be allowed at least based on their dependence from independent claim 4 as well as their individually patentable elements.

In addition, Applicants deny any statement, position or averment of the Examiner that is not specifically addressed by the foregoing argument and response. Any rejections and/or points of argument not addressed would appear to be moot in view of the presented remarks. However, the Applicants reserve the right to submit further arguments in support of the above stated position, should that become necessary. No arguments are waived and none of the Examiner's statements are conceded.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance, and a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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